

Is It or Isn't It

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Heartbeat Initiative bulletin (August 2010)

- July 2009 –June 2010
- 65.2% of those eligible received timely reperfusion
- 44% PPCI
- 56% lysis
- *6 (2%) patients were not contraindicated & did not receive reperfusion therapy*

European Perspective

- Eagle et al (2008)
- **NO REPERFUSION**
- 1999 40%
- 2006 33%

- “ A large gap remains between the goal of 100% treatment for all eligible patients presenting with ST segment elevation and what we actually do “

Eagle et al (2002)

Atypical presentation

Prior CHF

Female

Prior MI

Age > 75

No Reperfusion

Prior CABG

Patient delay

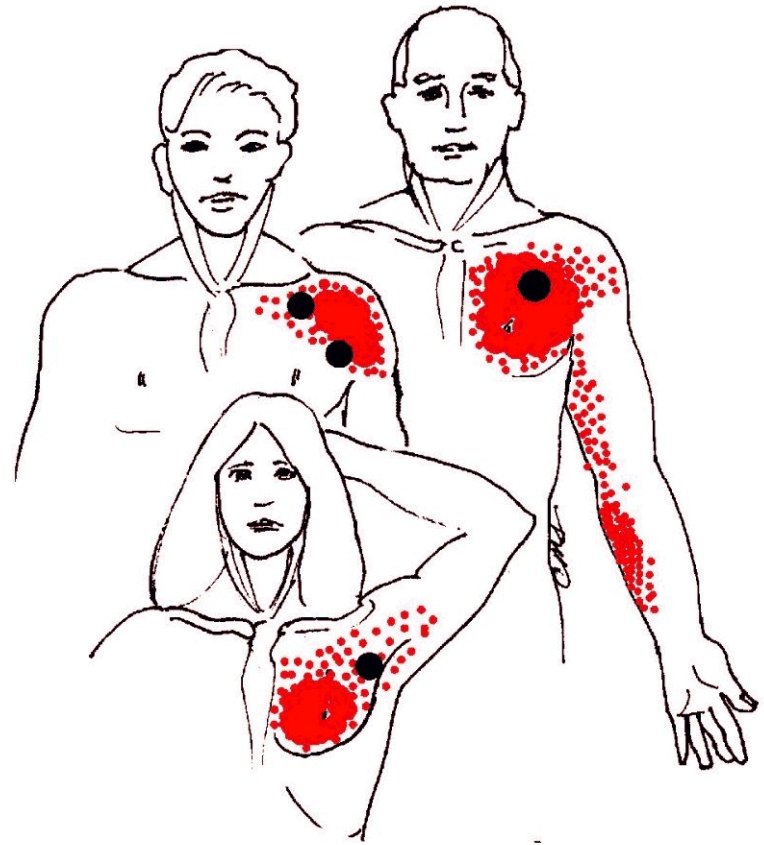
Diabetes

Undiagnosed
STEMI

Perceptions of
contraindications to
reperfusion

Typical Presentation

- Retrosternal pressure or heaviness radiating to left arm , neck or jaw intermittent (7al mins) or persistent.
- Assoc with diaphoresis , nausea, abdo pain dyspnoea or syncope



Atypical Presentation

- Epigastric pain.
- Stabbing chest pain
- Chest pain with some pleuritic features
- Dementia
- Pain at rest.
- Recent onset indigestion
- Increasing dyspnoea
- (ESC Guidelines 2007)

Promoting Awareness

- What can we do to promote awareness ?
- Action in learning
- Rounds
- Improve communication
- Journal clubs
- Case studies

- Thank you



“Nurse, NO! We’ve changed the way we treat heart attack patients now!”